

IS RECOGNIZED BY THE LEGISLATURE

Both Houses Swear to Support Constitution.

MR. McLEAN DECLINES

Mr. Sipe is to Qualify His Oath.

CATON MAKES LONG SPEECH

Opposed to Proclamation, but Bows Finally to Will of Majority—Cases of Messrs. Sipe and McLean May Go to Courts—Governor Montague Submits Brief Message.

The General Assembly met yesterday and organized under the new Constitution and took the oath to support the same. Beyond the taking of the oath and the hearing of Governor Montague's message, which was in the nature of a greeting to the body, nothing was done.

It, however, took over three hours to do this. On the Senate side there was but little friction. Mr. Revercomb (Republican), of Allegheny, rebelling for a while and then yielding. In the House it was different. It was a mean, weary session, and stumbling blocks were set all along the way by Colonel Caton (Democrat), of Alexandria, and Messrs. Heermans, Sipe and McLean (Republicans). The latter declined to take the oath and left the hall, saying he would never take it. His party, through its leader, Mr. Sipe, presented a protest, which was read, but all save Mr. McLean, of Mecklenburg, finally subscribed.

A QUALIFIED OATH.

Mr. Sipe is preparing a qualified oath, which he will present to-day and which will be declined by the Speaker. His case and that of Mr. McLean will go to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, and their sense are likely to be declared. At least it is believed that there will be a contest over them and that the matter will finally get into the courts. It is believed here that the action of the Republicans was the outcome of a party caucus held the night of the 15th, at which it was said Judge L. L. Lewis was present, and that it was then arranged for Mr. McLean to decline to swear, in order to get the case up. Colonel Caton's speech was spirited, but not bitter. He argued against the right of the convention to proclaim and the fact denial of the existence of any new instrument until submitted to the people, which he urged should be done by the Legislature.

However, he said he would accept the will of a majority of his colleagues, and having expressed his opinion, cheerfully abided the result. The speeches of the Republicans on a different line, that of Mr. Heermans, being a bitter attack on the convention and its work. Both branches will meet at noon to-day, and will proceed to the transaction of business.

CAME IN EARLY.

As early as 11 o'clock members and prominent public men from all over the State began to pour into both Houses, and when at the hour of noon Speaker Ryan and Lieutenant-Governor Willard let their respective hammers fall, the scenes on both sides were inspiring. Henry Clay, George Tucker, John W. C. Gilmer, of Bristol, Hon. P. W. Campbell, of Washington and a great many candidates for Circuit judgeships were on hand. In the absence of fans the heat was oppressive in both halls, but a great deal more so in the House.

Messrs. Glass and Clay were interesting personages on the Senate side, owing to their hot fight for Congress, and they sat quietly in their accustomed seats when the body was called to order.

Hon. Tipton D. Jennings, of Lynchburg, one of the popular House leaders, occupied his seat on the front row, clad in a suit of faultless crash and appeared to be the only comfortable member present. Colonel R. E. Lee, Jr., and Hon. N. B. Barly, Jr., sat side by side, weighing over two hundred each, and fanning vigorously with their hands. Judge James Keith was on the floor, and with him sat Hon. L. P. Stearnes, of Newport News, working over time with a large palm-leaf fan.

THE FIRST DAY.

It was the first day of a Virginia Legislature assembled under new conditions, and all was expectancy. The mode of procedure would be different and entirely new. Colonel James R. Caton was the central object of thought and gaze. He was announced to speak against taking the oath, and all desired to hear him. Colonel A. M. Bowman, one of the congressional candidates in the Sixth District, was in his seat on the House side. He was all smiles and was warmly greeted by his colleagues.

House Proceedings.

Speaker Ryan rapped the House to order promptly at the hour of noon, and prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Russell. Clerk Williams read the call of Governor Montague for the extraordinary session and Speaker Ryan was sworn by Mr. C. Lee Moore of the State Auditor's office. Mr. Moore then swore Clerk Williams and both the clerk and the Speaker affixed their signatures to the oaths taken by them.

The roll call disclosed the presence of the following members:

Allen, Angell, Armstrong, W. W. Baker, Biscoe, C. T. Ebb, George C. Bland, Boaz, Bowman, Branch, Cannaday, Cabell, Cardwell, Carter, Caton, Christian, Clarke, Coleman, Cumming, Davis, Dudley, Duke, Early, Edmondson, Edwards, Elam, Ekins, Folkes, Fulton, Gardner, Garrett, Gent, George, Goodwin, Gravelly, Graves, Green, Harman, Heermans, Hoffman, Huff, Hunley, Jennings, Jones, Kelley, Lewis, Lassiter, Lawson, Leake, Lee, Lowry, Lowry, Mott, Mathews, Mays, McLean, Moore, Owens, Newcomb, O'Leary, Overby, Owen, Owens, Powers, Purdy, Quisenberry, Reynolds, Rice, Robson, Sebell, Settle, Simmerman, Sipe, Blackburn, Stearnes, Sneed, Southall, Stafford, Stearnes, Taylor, Toney, Turpin, Waddy, Wallace, Ware, Weaver, West, Whitehead, Woodward, Mr. Speaker.

COLONEL CATON SPEAKS.

The Speaker said: "The clerk will now administer the oath of office to the members of the House of Delegates." But before this order of the chair was carried

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STREET-CAR MEN MAY GO ON STRIKE TO-DAY

One Killed, Two Injured By Dynamite Explosion

(By Associated Press.)

JOHNSTOWN, PA., July 15.—John Savach, a Slav, aged thirty-six, was instantly killed; Roger Harvey, Sr., aged fifty-five, seriously, and John Yule, slightly injured by an explosion of dynamite in number 34 mine of the Berwind-White Coal Mining Company at Windber, about noon to-day. Savach was preparing a stick of dynamite for use when from some unknown cause it exploded together with sixteen sticks which were lying near by. Savach was blown to pieces.

Mine Inspectors Evans, Roby and Ross were in the Cambria Rolling Mill Mine all forenoon to-day in the Klondike region, where last Thursday's explosion occurred. They report things as going on well inside.

Work was resumed in earnest at the mine this morning, 160 men returning to their places. Yesterday's output was 342 tons, which is about fourteen per cent. of the usual amount of coal delivered daily to the works. To-day's output was about 400 tons. No more bodies have been found.

Will Stick by Demands Made Upon the Company.

CRISIS TO COME AT NOON

Committee Will Wait Upon the Officials This Morning and Present the Employees' Ultimatum.

Indications at an early hour this morning pointed to the probability that within a few hours Richmond will be in the midst of its first great street railway employees' strike.

The street car men's union, at a very largely attended meeting last night, at which more than four hundred men were present, decided to decline to accept the proposition of the company.

The same committee which called upon the officials of the company yesterday was expected to wait upon the officials this morning. It was instructed to present the same proposition from the union—a nine-hour day at twenty cents an hour.

It was decided that if the demands of the union were not granted by the company by twelve o'clock to-day that the men should leave the cars at that hour.

OFFICERS COMING.

The international officials of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees were telegraphed for last night. President Mahone and the international organization will, probably be in Richmond in a day or two.

The meeting last night lasted for about an hour and a quarter, and adjourned at 3:15 o'clock this morning. There was every indication of unanimity and earnestness of purpose on the part of the men. They appear to have no hard feeling against the company, but to believe that they should now act and act promptly.

President Simmons, who is a district organizer, the men say, has authority to order a strike.

A representative of the company when informed at an early hour this morning by The Times of the action of the men, stated that the authority to call a strike under the laws of the organization was vested only in the president of the international organization, Mr. Mahone.

CONFERENCE YESTERDAY.

By appointment, a committee of the union, consisting of Messrs. W. J. Griggs, R. D. Johnson, A. J. Porter, Harry Baker, E. E. Evans, and A. J. Dillon, called at the offices of the company yesterday morning to receive the company's reply to the overture of the men for a nine hour day at 20 cents an hour. They were in conference for half an hour with President Sitterling, of the Virginia Passenger and Power Company; General Manager Huff, of that company, and Major James D. Patton, at a certain time president of the two one-time rival companies now owned and operated by the Virginia Passenger and Power Company.

The conference was a very pleasant one. The proposition of the company, which the committee carried back to the union, may be summarized as follows:

THE PROPOSITIONS.

First: The men of each division may decide by vote whether they will work a day or a twelve-hour day.

Second: A scale of wages of 17 and 15 cents for main and branch line motormen, and 15 and 14 cents for main and branch line conductors.

Third: Payment by the hour if the men desire.

The proposition of the union to the company was as follows:

First: For a nine-hour day.

Second: For a uniform wage for all motormen and conductors of 20 cents an hour.

Third: Payment by the hour, rather than by the day, in order to secure compensation for overtime.

It will be seen that while the company grants first and third of these requests in the matter of wages, the union and

was communicated to stockholders in a circular dated April 17, 1902.

Mr. Schwab's answer contains the following statement of the value of the corporation's property, which estimate, he says, he regards as below its real value:

Iron and Bessemer ore properties, \$700,000; plants, mills, fixtures, machinery, equipment, tools, and real estate \$300,000; coal and coke fields (\$7,589 acres), \$100,000,000; transportation properties, including railroads (1,467 miles), terminals, docks, ships, (112), equipment, (23,185 cars and 42 locomotives), \$50,000,000; blast furnaces, \$48,000,000; natural gas fields, \$20,000,000; limestone properties, \$4,000,000; cash and cash assets as of June 1, 1902, \$148,231,000. Total, \$1,400,231,000.

The present fixed charge of the United States Steel Corporation is 5 per cent. per annum on \$203,057,000 of bonds, and an annual sinking fund of \$3,040,000, making an annual charge of \$18,327,500; and when the proposed issue of second mortgage bonds is outstanding, namely, \$230,000 at 5 per cent. per annum, together with an annual sinking fund of \$1,010,000, the total fixed charges of the United States Steel Corporation for interest and bond sinking funds will be \$21,737,500 against \$140,000,000 per annum net earnings. "The profits of the United States Steel Corporation," the statement continues, "will be reduced more than seventy-five per cent., and there would still be ample funds to pay the interest and sinking funds upon the first and second mortgage bonds."

VETERANS LED BY YOUNGSTERS IN THE RACE FOR GOLF HONORS

A Large Proportion of Those Who Qualify in the Medal Play at Eighteen Holes Are Mere Lads—A Very Interesting Contest for the Championship.

(By Associated Press.)

GLENVIEW GOLF COURSE, ILL., July 15.—The youngsters had the better of the veterans in the opening struggle for the amateur golf championship honors, which took place over the Glenview course to-day. Of the sixty-four who qualified in the medal play at eighteen holes, a large proportion were mere lads. Old timers like J. G. Thorp, Massachusetts State champion, and as prominent contestant in several national championships, and Herbert J. Tweedie, of Belmont, who is the favorite, put them to test in to-morrow's match play. Scores well under qualifying figures were made by many young players, the steadiness of whose play over the long difficult course made it evident that the veterans' struggle for the coveted championship honors will be replete with brilliant golf.

The biggest surprise was furnished by G. A. Ormiston, of Pittsburg, who tied Champion Travis' medal score of 79 made earlier in the day, and showed such splendid form that his chances for championship honors are considered exceedingly bright.

Abram Poole, Jr., of Onwentsia, with an 85; H. C. Chandler, Esq., of Exmoor, with 86; Walter Egan, of Lake Geneva, with 84, and Allan Hibbard, of Milwaukee, with 83, all played consistently and are looked upon as formidable competitors; nevertheless close followers of the game are firm in their belief that Walter J. Travis, present champion, will retain the honor. His playing to-day was machine-like. His medal score of 79 was golf that was almost flawless, and his proven ability to go the distance in a 36 hole match confirms his friends in their confidence.

Ideal conditions prevailed.

One peculiarity about the play was

the tying at 94 of thirteen men for the last two places on the qualifying list. They will play off the tie at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, when the first round at 18 holes match play in the championship struggle will be called. The second round will be played off in the afternoon. Two rounds at 18 holes also will be played Thursday. On Friday in the semi-finals the play will be at 26 holes as will the final struggle Saturday between the survivors. The tie for the gold medal given for the lowest qualifying score will be played off by Travis and Ormiston at their convenience, probably before Saturday.

There were 132 starters in to-day's tournament.

EDITOR OF EAGLE GUEST OF TEDDY

Mr. McKelway Entertained by the President—Severe Storm During Yacht Reception.

(By Associated Press.)

OSTER BAY, N. Y., July 15.—This evening St. Clair McKelway, editor of the Brooklyn Eagle, was a guest of the President, who was accompanied by the President's daughter, Miss Mary Lou, and former District Attorney Philbin, of New York, who will be the guests of the President late this week. Secretary of the Navy Moody, who is expected to

STRIKE OF HANDLERS SEEMS NEAR ITS END

Large Number of Men Will Return to Work To-Day.

AN AGREEMENT REACHED

Committees Representing Employees of Four Roads Sign.

THE MEN LOSE THEIR FIGHT

Under the Agreement Reached the Men Will Practically Return to Work Upon the Terms Formerly Offered by the Railroads. Final Action Was Taken This Morning.

(By Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, ILL., July 15.—With agreements reached between four railroads and their employees, the great strike of the freight handlers and teamsters, that has paralyzed the industries of Chicago for a week, is apparently broken. A majority of the strikers are expected to return to work to-morrow. By Thursday, according to the present outlook, there will be few evidences of the strike.

Some of the more radical unionists may refuse to accept the terms accepted by representative committees, but apparently they will be able to wield but little influence with the majority of the strikers. It is possible, however, that the radicals may prevent the strike from being called off at a mass meeting of the freight handlers called for to-morrow morning. Upon the action taken at this meeting will depend the attitude of the striking teamsters. Their national president, A. L. Young, ordered them back to work to-morrow, but if the freight handlers refuse to declare the strike off officially some of the teamsters may refuse to work. It is conceded that their officers exercise little absolute authority.

FOUR RAILROADS AGREE.

The four railroads that entered into agreements with their men to-night were the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, the Chicago and Northwestern, the Nickel Plate and the Illinois Central. Of the four, the Northwestern and the Illinois Central accepted the proposition made upon advice of the Teamsters' Board of Arbitration. The Nickel Plate and Lake Shore succeeded in getting their men to sign the scale presented by the railroad July 15.

Consequently, neither the freight handlers nor the railroads claim a victory, as the employees of the Lake Shore were the first to sign. However, the railroads are expressing the greatest satisfaction over the break in the strike. The freight handlers return to work without having obtained recognition of their union, time and a half for overtime or the abolishment of the probation period. On the other hand, the handlers have obtained increases in pay.

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OIL TANKS SET ON FIRE BY A BOLT OF LIGHTNING

Tanks of the Jennings Company in Louisiana Burned and the Destruction of the Entire Field is Threatened.

(By Associated Press.)

JENNINGS, LA., July 15.—During the heavy electrical storm that passed over the Jennings' oil field about noon a bolt of lightning struck the field storage tanks of the Jennings Oil Company, setting them on fire. The flames then spread to the derricks of the company, and in a short time they were also destroyed. By the time the derricks had fallen the flames had eaten away a portion of one of the field tanks, allowing the oil to escape, which flowed in burning streams in the direction of the Coulee. The workmen at the field immediately stopped operations and set about throwing up levees to prevent, as far as possible, the spreading of the fire to the adjoining derricks.

The safety of the field now depends upon the strength of the Jennings No. 2. The oil is leaking around it and, together with the gas, is burning fiercely, shooting a flame about ten feet into the air. A telephone message from the field late this evening says that it is impossible to stop the flames, and that the gate valve will hold but a short while longer. If this gives away before all possible precautions are taken, the entire field will be destroyed. The workmen are now engaged in removing the derricks of the remaining companies and burying the mouths of the wells underneath a heavy coating of mud and water.

THE BIG ELKS

Grand Trustees and Special Committee Meet in Lynchburg.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

LYNCHBURG, VA., July 15.—The grand trustees of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States and the Special Committee on the Elks' Home will be in Lynchburg to-morrow. They are as follows: Grand Trustees—John D. O'Shea, of Lynn, Mass.; J. T. Fanning, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Henry W. Mears, of Baltimore, Md.

Committee on Elks' Home—Meads D. Detweiler, of Harrisburg, Pa.; W. Mel Drennen, of Birmingham, Ala.; George P. Cronk, of Omaha, Neb.; and Jerome B. Fisher, of Jamestown, N. Y.

Lynchburg was selected as a point for the trustees and committee to meet. From here they go to Bedford City for the purpose of inspecting Hotel Bedford, which was recently purchased by the Elks for the establishment of a home for aged and infirm members.

ALLEGED FORGED ORDER

Woman Said to Have Committed This Crime.

The police of the First District have been notified to look out for a woman named Willis, who is alleged to have forged the name of Rev. W. J. Maybree to an order for the release of her child from the Children's Home, of which he is superintendent.

TEXAS DEMOCRATS MEET IN CONVENTION

Will Adopt Platform Generally Endorsing Kansas City Platform.

(By Associated Press.)

GALVESTON, TEXAS, July 15.—The Democratic State Convention met to-day and organized with George Pendleton, of Bell county, as temporary chairman. The usual committees were appointed and adjourned until to-morrow.

One of the features of the session was an ovation to Judge John H. Reagan, who voluntarily retires from the position of railroad commissioner. The convention passed a resolution eulogizing him as a patriot, for half a century conspicuous as one of the boldest, wisest and most faithful champions of Democracy. He is the only survivor of either of the civil war cabinets.

The convention adjourned until morning without effecting permanent organization. It is understood the platform will re-affirm the Kansas City platform without specifying any particular planks. Congressman Samuel W. T. Lanham will be nominated for Governor by acclamation.

GENERAL.

Lake shore freight handlers and railroad officials reach an agreement and the men will go back to work this morning.

Corn in July corn in the Chicago market broken and Gates and associates

Youngsters have the better of veterans in the opening struggle for the amateur golf championship.

King Edward boards the Royal yacht and stands the trip to Cowes very well.

Steel corporation files its answer to application for injunction and claims ability to pay interest and sinking fund.

Hottest day of the year in London and many cases of sunstroke, with the thermometer only at 82.

Government officials more hopeful of securing the election of Gaylor and Greene.

England's 300 Seagate Stakes for three-year-olds at Brighton Beach. Friction expected in settlement of annexed territory in the Philippines.

Texas Democrats in their State Convention give a great ovation to General Reagan.